

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in response to Examiner's Final Action dated September 8, 2005 and pursuant to a brief telephone conference with Examiner on November 8, 2005. Applicants have amended the claims to overcome objections thereto. No new matter has been added, and the amendments place the claims in better condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments to the claims. The discussion/arguments provided below reference the claims in their amended form.

CLAIMS OBJECTIONS

In the present Office Action, Claims 14 and 17 are objected to because of informalities. Accordingly, Applicants have amended Claims 14 and 17, removing the stated informality. The amendments overcome the claim objections and Applicants request removal of the objections to the claims.

CLAIMS REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the present Office Action, Claims 1 and 5-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by *Cowan, et al.* ("On-Chip Repair and an ATE Independent Fusing Methodology").

As stated during the telephonic conference, *Cowan* is not a valid §102 reference because of the following facts:

- (1) *Cowan* was published by one of the inventors, Michael R. Ouellette, of the present invention;
- (2) The information published within *Cohen* derived from Applicants' invention; and
- (3) Applicants' invention was filed on July 18, 2003, less than one (1) year from *Cohen*'s publication date of October 7, 2002 (as evidenced by the attached cover page of the publication).

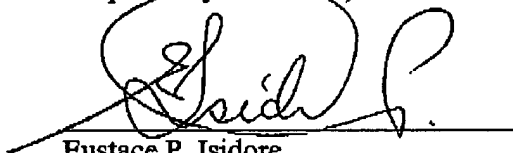
Since, *Cohen* is not a valid §102 reference, the present §102 rejections are rendered moot.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have diligently responded to the Office Action by amending the claims to overcome claim objections. Applicants have also shown that *Cohen* is not a valid §102 reference. With the §102 rejections rendered moot, the claims are therefore allowable, and Applicants, therefore, respectfully request issuance of a Notice of Allowance for all claims now pending.

Applicants further respectfully request the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney of record at 512.343.6116 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,



Eustace P. Isidore
Reg. No. 56,104
Dillon & Yudell LLP
8911 North Capital of Texas Highway
Suite 2110
Austin, Texas 78759
512.343.6116

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT(S)